AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1-32. (Canceled).

33. (Currently amended) The compound of formula II,

$$(R^8)_p - Ar^1 - N + N + N + (R^9)_q$$

wherein

Y is O,

Ar¹ is selected from the group consisting of aromatic hydrocarbons containing 6 to 14 carbon atoms and ethylenical unsaturated [[or]] <u>and</u> aromatic heterocyclic residues containing 3 to 10 carbon atoms and one or two heteroatoms, the heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S,

 Ar^2 is pyridinyl bonded to X in the 3- or 4- position relative to the pyridinyl N, and $Ar^2 - (R^{10})_r$ is selected from the group consisting of:

II,

R⁸, R⁹,

 $R^{23} \text{ and } R^{24} \qquad \text{are independently selected from the group consisting of H, A, cycloalkyl comprising 3 to 7 carbon atoms, Hal, $CH_2Hal, $CH(Hal)_2$, $C(Hal)_3$, NO_2, $(CH_2)_nCN$, $(CH_2)_nNR^{11}R^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nOR^{11}$, $(CH_2)_nO(CH_2)_kNR^{11}R^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nCOOR^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nCONR^{11}R^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nNR^{11}COR^{13}$, $(CH_2)_nNR^{11}CONR^{11}R^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nNR^{11}SO_2A$, $(CH_2)_nSO_2NR^{11}R^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nS(O)_uR^{13}$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)R^{13}$, $(CH_2)_nCOR^{13}$, $(CH_2)_nSR^{11}$, $(CH_2)_nSR^{11}$, $(CH_2)_nNCOR^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nNCH=N-R^{11}$, $(CH_2)_nOC(O)NR^{11}R^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nNR^{11}COOR^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nN(R^{11})CH_2CH_2OCF_3$, $(CH_2)_nN(R^{11})CH_2CH_2OCF_3$, $(CH_2)_nN(R^{11})CH_2CH_2N(R^{12})CH_2COOR^{12}$, $(CH_2)_nN(R^{11})CH_2CH_2NR^{11}R^{12}$, $CH=CHCOOR^{11}$, $CH=CHCH_2NR^{11}R^{12}$, $$

 R^{11} , R^{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, A, $(CH_2)_mAr^3$ and $(CH_2)_mHet$, or in $NR^{11}R^{12}$, R^{11} and R^{12} form, together with the N-Atom they are bound to, a 5-, 6- or 7-membered heterocycles which optionally contains 1 or 2 additional heteroatoms, selected from the group consisting of N, O and S,

 R^{13} , R^{14} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, Hal, A, $(CH_2)_mAr^4$ and $(CH_2)_mHet$,

A is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, alkylenecycloalkyl, alkoxy and alkoxyalkyl,

Ar³, Ar⁴ are independently aromatic hydrocarbon residues comprising 5 to 12 carbon atoms optionally substituted by one or more substituents, selected from the group consisting of A, Hal, NO₂, CN, OR¹⁵, NR¹⁵R¹⁶, COOR¹⁵, CONR¹⁵R¹⁶, NR¹⁵COR¹⁶, NR¹⁵COR¹⁶, NR¹⁶SO₂A, COR¹⁵, SO₂R¹⁵R¹⁶, S(O)_uA and OOCR¹⁵,

Het is a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocyclic residue which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents, selected from the group consisting of A, Hal, NO₂, CN, OR¹⁵, NR¹⁵R¹⁶, COOR¹⁵, CONR¹⁵R¹⁶, NR¹⁵COR¹⁶, NR¹⁵COR¹⁵, NR¹⁵COR¹⁵, SO₂R¹⁵R¹⁶, S(O)_uA and OOCR¹⁵,

 R^{15} , R^{16} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, A, and $(CH_2)_mAr^5$, wherein

Ar⁵ is a 5- or 6-membered aromatic hydrocarbon optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, 2-propyl, tert.-butyl, Hal, CN, OH, NH₂ and CF₃,

k, m and n are independently of one another 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, S, and CH₂,

p is_0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,

q is 0,

u is 0, 1, 2 or 3,

and

Hal is selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br and I;

and salts of the compound.

Claims 34-37. (Canceled).

38. (Currently amended) A composition, comprising an effective amount of the compound of claim 33 or <u>pharmaceutically acceptable</u> salts thereof in a pharmaceutical composition.

Claims 39-42. (Canceled).

43. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 38, further comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of physiologically acceptable excipients, auxiliaries, adjuvants, and carriers and pharmaceutical active ingredients other than the compounds according to claim 38.